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ABSTRACT

Following a brief review of the current Louisiana library system at all levels (both public and private), needs, goals, objectives, and implementation suggestions are made in the following areas: personnel; library materials; service to the disadvantaged, the blind and physically handicapped, and the health and correctional institutions; financing; public relations; physical facilities; study and evaluation. (TAG)

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ED134139

CLEAR PURPOSE---COMPLETE COMMITMENT

A Long-Range Program to Provide Louisianians with Library and Information Services Adequate to Their Needs, 1977 – 1981

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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THOMAS F. JAQUES – LOUISIANA STATE LIBRARIAN

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INTRODUCTION

Excellent library service is the right of every Louisianian and should be designed to meet his educational, informational, and cultural needs, whether that person is a preschooler or a scholar, a housewife or a businessman, a student or a public official.

The long-range program described in the following pages is a firm commitment to help each Louisianian meet his responsibilities and achieve his personal goals. The Louisiana Advisory Council on Libraries (See Attachment I) and the Louisiana State Library believe that the achievement of the goals set forth in this program will help to move the state toward that "era of excellence", as envisioned by Governor Edwin Edwards.

The goals were adopted after a careful analysis of needs by members of the Advisory Council and the staff of the Louisiana State Library. Appreciation should be expressed to all who participated in the development of the long-range program and, particularly, to Miss S. Janice Kee, United States Office of Education Regional Program Officer.

Acknowledgment is made of the anticipated use of funds available under the Federal Library Services and Construction Act in the implementation of the program objectives. The Advisory Council is keenly aware that the goals can be achieved only through intergovernmental cooperation and support, and that Louisianians will have access to quality library service only when a mutually acceptable fair share formula of local-state-federal support is developed.

The Advisory Council and the State Library believe that the long-range program is realistic and achievable. While the Advisory Council is convinced that the objectives outlined in the program will provide useful guidelines for library development in the state, it acknowledges that any plan must be constantly updated to meet changing needs and demands. The Advisory Council and the State Library are confident that the ultimate beneficiary of judicious planning will be the consumer of library services.

It is hoped that this document will effectively present the Louisiana library story--the background, needs, broad goals, program objectives, and plans for the implementation of these objectives.

BACKGROUND

In the past, Louisiana librarians and trustees have participated in vigorous and continuous planning for many kinds of library activity. The planning has been under way at all levels and has been affected by many groups involving hundreds of persons--academic, public, school, and special librarians; library educators; public library trustees; and State Library staff.

In recent years public library service has been extended throughout the state, and emphasis has changed from the establishment of public libraries to the improvement of all types of libraries. Library leadership in the state recognized the need for new directions in library development. This need was clarified and brought into focus in the survey, *Library Service in Louisiana: Keeping Pace with Progress in the State.*[1] Conducted by two experienced survey-consultants, the survey, begun in 1966 and released in 1968, analyzes the programs of library service and library education in the state and makes suggestions for a future course of action.

Following the release of the survey, a Study Committee on Library Development, composed of 37 members from all fields of librarianship, was appointed by the Executive Board of the Louisiana Library Association to study the recommendations of the survey, to consider their feasibility, to recommend their acceptance or develop alternative proposals, and to assign priority to the recommendations. It is estimated that more than 200 persons participated actively in this study. The report of the Study Committee was unanimously adopted at the 1969 annual convention of the Louisiana Library

Association. Many of the recommendations of the committee have been implemented, including the establishment by the State Library of a pilot library system, a statewide survey of library resources, expansion of the rapid communications network, and expansion of the State Library Processing Center.

Enhancing the planning process was the institute on "The Concept of Systems of Libraries with Special Application to Louisiana", conducted by the Louisiana State University School of Library Science in cooperation with the State Library in October 1969. According to Dr. Shirley K. Stephenson, Institute Director and former Professor of Library Science at Louisiana State University: "The institute provided the opportunity and the impetus for 110 librarians (100 of whom were Louisiana administrative librarians) . . . to think constructively, to seek new and innovative plans for library cooperation, and to profit from the challenges, admonitions, advice, and recommendations of effective and knowledgeable speakers and consultants."[2]

Regional planning involving all types of libraries gained sufficient momentum at the institute to be continued in the seven system areas.

THE SETTING: LOUISIANA'S LIBRARIES

LOUISIANA STATE LIBRARY

"The State Library of Louisiana, throughout its more than 40-year history, has exerted a significant influence on library development within the State. Some of the concepts of regional library service adopted by farsighted planners more than a generation ago in Louisiana are now being established in other states."[3]

After its commitment to the establishment of public libraries was met with the completion of the last parish demonstration library in 1969, the State Library moved in new directions, initiating various types of programs designed to emphasize the benefits of regional and statewide cooperative and coordinated services. Its role became increasingly important in encouraging regional and statewide planning.

The new directions led to:

A State Library Processing Center that

- prepares, with assembly-line efficiency and reduction of costly duplication, thousands of books for the users of 42 of the state's 62 parish libraries and residents and staff of eight state health and correctional institutions.

A Communications Network that

- links through teletypewriter equipment (TWX) academic and public libraries in the state for accelerated and improved service.

Regional Library Systems that

- provide faster and better service, seeking to eliminate unnecessary

duplication of materials and staff and demonstrating that coordinated services benefit everyone (see page 9).

Regional Cooperative Projects that

- assist all types of libraries in a specified geographical area in identifying the needs of the area and in working together to meet these needs.

The Louisiana Numerical Register

- a computerized list of more than a million books that aids in locating library resources of the state.

Interstate Library Cooperation that

- provides programs for continuing education.

Ongoing services of the State Library include:

Reference and Loan that

- acquires the specialized and up-to-date technical materials necessary to support properly the complex information needs at all levels of government, and provides direct information and loan service to state officials and employees.
- reinforces the collections of local public libraries with a broad range of current and important publications, so that people in every part of the state may have equal access to the informational materials they need through their own parish libraries.
- aids and supplements the education of students by providing informational resources that cannot be adequately and conveniently supplied by their schools, and by offering the opportunity for self-development and lifelong education to all people.

Films and Recordings that

- make available a representative selection of the best audiovisual materials produced for the use of individuals and organizations through the state's public libraries.

Materials for the blind and physically handicapped that

- provide our citizens who cannot use an ordinary book the braille publication and recorded library materials essential to their mental and spiritual well-being.

Louisiana Union Catalog that

- makes the most effective use of existing book resources about Louisiana by maintaining a comprehensive and current inventory of their locations in all the libraries of the state.

Consultative Services that

- provide an effective liaison between the State Library and libraries throughout the state stimulating them to provide their full potential of service.

Establishing and strengthening libraries in health and correctional institutions that

- extend the benefits of library service to this heretofore unserved portion of our population, the institutionalized.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

"It is virtually impossible to separate the development of parish library services from that of the State Library . . . so significant has been the influence of the latter in fostering this kind of regional library concept throughout Louisiana."[4]

Locally supported public library service for every parish in Louisiana, envisioned in 1927, became a reality in November 1969, when the last parish without a demonstration library assumed responsibility for financing.

The demonstration method of extending public library service adopted by the Louisiana Library Commission in the early years of its existence established a pattern for organizing libraries that is still being used effectively today with other types of library service. The method is based on the belief that, if the people of a parish had the opportunity to experience good library service, they would recognize its value and be willing to support the service after a year's demonstration. In almost every case this proved to be true.

Most of the expense of the yearlong demonstrations was borne by the State Library. Prior to the passage of the Library Services Act of 1956, the local governing body made a more substantial contribution to the cost of operation. After that time the local contribution was reduced, but a small amount was still required in the belief that even a token carried a commitment from the Police Jury.

That most Louisiana public libraries are organized as parishwide systems can be attributed to two things: the demonstration method and the Louisiana law governing parish and municipal libraries (Louisiana Revised Statutes 25:211). In the 64 parishes there are 64 public libraries. Sixty-one of these are parishwide systems; one is a three-parish consolidated system; one is a bicity library in a parish without parishwide service; and two are independent city libraries in parishes with parishwide systems.

LIBRARY SYSTEMS

In 1969 when the establishment of public libraries in every parish in the state was completed, Louisiana librarians turned their attention to new methods of improving service. The major recommendation of the Humphry survey[5] was the organization of library systems consisting of groups of libraries within a defined geographical area working together for the improvement of library service to all residents of the area. (See Map Designating Library Systems, Attachment III).

The Louisiana Library Association committee appointed to study the Humphry recommendations endorsed the organization of library systems, but suggested that more study and experience were needed before this pattern could be applied. Following the demonstration method used successfully in the establishment of parish libraries, the State Library agreed to conduct a two-year pilot system to test and evaluate the program. All officially designated system areas were given the opportunity to apply for a grant following conditions and guidelines approved by the study committee.

In April 1970, the initial grant was made to the Trail Blazer Pilot Library System of northeast Louisiana serving 13 parishes with a population of 344,421. The member libraries total 16, including 13 public and three academic libraries. The major objectives of the pilot library system were: (1) to establish a reference center; (2) to strengthen the book collections of member libraries; (3) to provide continuing education for library staffs;

(4) to inform staff and public of advantages and opportunities offered by the system; and (5) to develop local history collections in member libraries.

The pilot period was successfully completed in December 1971, and all member libraries agreed to continue participation. In her report of an in-depth evaluation of the pilot system, Mrs. Phyllis Dalton, Assistant State Librarian of California, concluded that the system was successful in improving library service in the region, but recommended a higher level of service to provide maximum benefits to the patrons of all member libraries.[6]

On the basis of success in the first pilot system, a second such system was funded by the State Library in October 1971. The Green Gold Pilot Library System of northwest Louisiana includes eight parish, four academic and three special libraries and serves a population of 418,318. The services of the Green Gold System closely resemble those of the Trail Blazer System, with one exception. Programs are being developed to promote reading and library use in accord with such current national goals as the Right to Read.

A third system was funded by the State Library in April 1974. The Bayouland Pilot Library System of south central Louisiana includes ten public and three academic libraries, and serves a population of 622,784. Before formally organizing, this area had a history of cooperation and had received several grants for planning and small projects, such as a regional numerical register, a union list of serials, and a union list of large print books. These tools have greatly facilitated their reference and interlibrary loan service, the demand for which has exceeded that of the other two systems. This area with its unique historical and cultural background is developing

a number of local history projects and is also planning to serve residents with limited English-speaking ability.

Also in April 1974 the Southeast Louisiana Library Network Cooperative was funded. Participating in this network are five public, nine academic, and four special libraries with the New Orleans Public Library serving as the reference and referral center. This area with its concentration of population (more than one-sixth of the state's population) and library resources (more academic than any other region and more special libraries than all the other regions combined) is unique and has special library needs. The network is meeting one of these needs--better use of the region's extensive library resources.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

There are 35 separate campuses or facilities where formal post-secondary programs are offered, and which maintain libraries. Of these, 21 are publicly supported and 14 privately supported.

Publicly supported:	
Louisiana State University System	
4-year campuses	3
2-year campuses	2
Medical schools	2
Southern University System	
4-year campuses	2
2-year campuses	1
Other public universities	
4-year campuses	8
2-year campuses	3

Privately supported:	
Tulane University	
Main campus	1
Medical school	1
Other private colleges and universities	
Liberal arts	8
Theological seminaries	3
2-year campuses	1

The Constitution of the State of Louisiana (1974) designates three boards for the "supervision and management" of the state's institutions of higher learning.

The three boards created for this purpose are the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, and the Board of Trustees for State Colleges and Universities.

In January 1972 the Coordinating Council for Higher Education submitted to the Governor and members of the Legislature a *Master Plan Toward Balanced Growth in Louisiana Posthigh School Education: Quantity and Quality.*[7] One of its major recommendations was the establishment of a single governing coordinating board--called the Board of Regents--for all public institutions of higher education in Louisiana. Now established under the new Constitution, the Board of Regents is the planning, coordinating, and budgeting authority for all of public higher education in the state.

Academic libraries are operated as integral parts of their parent institutions, and their financial support is part of the total budget of these institutions. In 1973 the total academic library operating expenditure for the 28 reporting was $10,614,394. Their book collections totaled 5,816,812 volumes, and they received 57,568 periodical and newspaper titles.[8]

While academic libraries in Louisiana are not completely adequate to meet the curricular requirements, their collections constitute a significant resource for interlibrary cooperation. The success of system development in the state will be related to the involvement and commitment of academic libraries.

Participation by academic libraries in Trail Blazer, Green Gold, and Bayouland systems and SEALLINC has been 100%, and they have made a marked contribution to the system reference and interlibrary loan service.

In response to the need for fuller use and more accessibility to the library resources, the Academic Library Section of the Louisiana Library Association, in Fiscal Year 1972, applied for and received from the State Library a small planning grant to determine methods and procedures for the effective use of these resources by all types of libraries. The work of this group provided a major impetus to the application of electronic data processing to the libraries in Louisiana.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

As in the case of academic libraries, school libraries are part of a larger administrative structure. The authority for Louisiana's public school operation rests with state, parish, and municipal school boards.

The position of Supervisor of School Libraries in the State Department of Education was established, and the first person was appointed to the job in 1929. There are also 21 professional librarians serving as parish school library supervisors or librarians of parish media centers. These persons provide a focus for attention to school library planning and development.

In the 1974-75 school year, there were 1,450 public schools in the state, 1,303 of which had central libraries. In addition, there were 454 private schools with an unknown number of central libraries.[9]

School library expenditures (salaries, library materials, and supplies) in 1974-75 amounted to $14,883,451. At the end of the same school year, their book collections totaled 10,283,420, or an average of 11.9 books per pupil.[10]

In recent years most school systems (63 of the 66) have established libraries which perform a variety of functions. They serve as central sources of all instructional materials, both print and audiovisual; professional material; and audiovisual equipment.

Federal funds--especially the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the National Defense Education Act, and the Higher Education Act--have helped to improve school library services in the following ways: additional print and nonprint materials to support and enrich curricula programs and to fill gaps in collections; employment of professional and paraprofessional personnel at the school and parish levels; establishment of parishwide media centers; increase in the number of centralized elementary school libraries; and provisions for in-service education for library/media personnel.

Since school libraries do not function as independent units of service, and since they exist to serve the educational unit of which they are a part, the school librarians participating in the study of the Humphry survey did not approve full system membership for school libraries. To establish liaison, they suggested inviting representatives of other types of libraries to regular meetings of school librarians and administrators at the system level.

On the other hand, one of the conditions for qualifying for a system grant is that member libraries agree to invite school library and administrative personnel to regular quarterly meetings of the Executive Council. Although neither the recommendation nor the condition has been fully implemented, there has been a limited but useful exchange in search of better use of resources to serve students of all ages.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

According to the latest count, there are 5[illegible] independent special libraries in Louisiana, some publicly and some privately supported. Twenty-nine of these are located in two system areas: 17 in Southeast and 12 in Capital. These figures do not include the subject departments in the state, academic, and public libraries, which are a rich source of much specialized material. Special libraries with their varied collections, ranging in subject matter from medicine to foreign trade, have a very important role to play in the improvement of library service in the state. Nor is the street one-way. The clients of special libraries often have needs that extend beyond the scope of their library's responsibility, and they must turn to other libraries to provide what is lacking. For these reasons the participation by special libraries in the Green Gold Library System and in planning other system areas is most encouraging.

LIBRARY EDUCATION

The School of Library Science at Louisiana State University, the only institution in the state that grants a Master's degree in librarianship, was established in 1930. It is accredited by the national accrediting body, the American Library Association.

There are 12 colleges and universities, 10 public and two private, that offer library instruction at the undergraduate level only. The number of hours offered ranges from the minimum 18 hours required for certification as a school librarian to 33 hours offered by Louisiana Tech University. In the spring of 1972, Northwestern State University inaugurated a Master of Education degree in school librarianship to prepare students as librarians for elementary and secondary education institutions. Thirty-six hours are required to complete this program.

A two-year library technical assistant program is offered at Delgado Vocational-Technical Junior College in New Orleans.

Through the years the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Library Science and the Division of Continuing Education (formerly the General Extension Division) have cooperated with the State Library to offer workshops and institutes on various phases of library administration for public librarians. With National Defense Education Act and Higher Education Act Title II-B funds, Louisiana State University conducted a series of outstanding institutes for school librarians between 1965 and 1969. In recent years other state universities have offered similar institutes.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

PERSONNEL

Needs

The Louisiana Advisory Council on Libraries agrees with the statement in the report of the National Advisory Commission on Libraries that one of the objectives for overcoming current deficiencies is "to provide adequate trained personnel for the varied and changing demands of librarianship".[11] The efforts at continuing education in the past have been well received and pronounced "helpful". Unfortunately these programs have been too infrequent, and there has been a minimum of statewide coordination and planning for continuing education for library staffs and trustees. Louisiana urgently needs a comprehensive and responsive program to upgrade the skills of all library personnel.

Thirty-three of the 62 parish and regional libraries have only one staff member (the administrative librarian) with a Master's degree in library science, or its equivalent. These librarians need help in acquiring and strengthening the variety of skills required to administer a parish library system, as well as help in training nonprofessional staff to perform library tasks.

Four librarians who are administering parish libraries have had less than three years of library experience. Four parish library administrators have only undergraduate library education or less. These persons need--

and want--the opportunity for self-development as well as practical help and counsel on the job of running a library.

Providing opportunities for professional staff to maintain and improve their competencies is important. Of equal importance is the need for providing opportunities for the continuing development of those library assistants with no professional training who, for example, man the bookmobile or the branch library. In whatever capacity, they are the library to the public they serve, and they should be able to participate in continuing education activities that not only provide them with the skills and information necessary to do a better job but also inspire them with pride in their work and make them aware that they are part of the total library program in Louisiana. The parish librarian is rarely able to undertake this training locally--not because of a lack of interest or failure to recognize the need--but because of a lack of time, resources, and, in some cases, expertise.

The continued upgrading of staff is a need in all types of libraries. Workshops and courses should be planned to meet the requirements of staff members in all types of libraries--academic, public, school, and special. Through the sharing of resources and coordination of continuing education opportunities, personnel from the different types of libraries can benefit from the same activities--for example, a workshop on government documents or a course on library management.

Library personnel need special training in areas such as service to the disadvantaged. Opportunities should be provided for staff to secure this

kind of training through participation in workshops and through observation of meaningful programs in action.

Library board members in Louisiana have made a significant contribution to the state's library program; and they deserve, just as library personnel, the opportunity for "on-the-job-training" in order to do an even better job for the libraries they represent. Although some training has been provided in the past, such as annual district meetings and the annual meeting of the Trustees Section of the Louisiana Library Association, more carefully planned and regularly scheduled opportunities should be available. Not only are existing continuing education activities insufficient, but no programs or up-to-date materials are available to help in the orientation of newly appointed library trustees.

No matter how many books and films, how many functional buildings, how many streamlined bookmobiles are owned by the library, without competent, knowledgeable, and eager-to-serve personnel, the library cannot be effective. Improved library service to the citizens of Louisiana is the end result of the participation by library personnel and trustees in continuing education activities.

The people who serve Louisianians in Louisiana libraries should have top priority in any plan for library improvement and development. Therefore, Goal I is:

Goal I

To enhance the usefulness of library personnel at every level of service.

Program Objectives

1. To develop a state plan for the organization and structure of a coordinated program of continuing education for library personnel in Louisiana, working in cooperation with representatives of the various types of library activity, by September 30, 1977.
2. To provide continuing education opportunities to meet the expressed needs of library personnel at all levels, with the Louisiana State Library working in cooperation with the State Department of Education, the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Library Science, the Louisiana Library Association, other library organizations, and non-library groups, by:
   a. Encouraging the use of a correspondence reference course for non-professional public library staff in the Bayouland System and SEALLINC by September 30, 1977, and coordinating the use of the course by parish libraries not in systems.
   b. Providing government documents workshops in north and south Louisiana by September 30, 1978.
   c. Continuing to conduct an annual conference for administrative librarians of public libraries covering current concerns such as public relations, program planning, and so forth.
   d. Presenting a workshop on the services of the Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for library staff members in the central region by September 30, 1977.
   e. Providing a personnel management workshop for supervisory staffs of public, academic, institutional, special, and school libraries in the state. The workshop is to be presented in five locations in the state by September 30, 1977.

f. Planning an orientation session at the State Library for newly appointed parish librarians by September 30, 1977.

g. Continuing a State Library staff development program to meet the needs of both professional and supportive staff. Specific approaches include regularly scheduled staff meetings, more frequent opportunities for contact with other Louisiana librarians, participation in continuing education opportunities made available by other libraries and library organizations, and encouraging staff to visit libraries and other institutions outside the state to gain information that will enhance their performance at the State Library.

h. Assisting public librarians in the state to develop special competencies in outreach programs and a knowledge of materials suitable for use with the disadvantaged and the racial minorities through participation in local and out-of-state workshops and through observation of successful programs by September 30, 1977.

3. To cooperate with the Continuing Education for Library Staffs (CELS) project of the Southwest Library Association in order to promote and improve opportunities for learning by:

a. Assisting in the coordination of information on continuing education opportunities in the region by appointing a staff member to act as Louisiana Coordinator for the Continuing Education Information Network, to be organized during Fiscal Year 1977.

b. Coordinating the distribution in Louisiana of a needs assessment instrument to reassess the continuing education needs of library staff members in the region early in Fiscal Year 1977.

c. Presenting the CELS workshop on Program Planning for the Adult Public to the Administrative Librarians Conference on October 20-22, 1976.

d. Presenting the CELS workshop on Computer Applications for Libraries before September 30, 1977.

4. To develop, coordinate, and participate in an "exchange" program for library staffs in which there is an interchange of personnel among the State Library and public libraries in Louisiana. Such a program will permit professional librarians to broaden their experiences in varied work situations and thereby promote individual flexibility and greater understanding of differing organizational objectives and procedures.

5. To provide improved opportunities for formal and informal training for public library trustees by:

   a. Assisting the Louisiana Library Association Trustees Section in the planning and development of a new handbook for trustees to serve as a training and reference tool, to be completed before September 30, 1978.

   b. Developing and conducting workshops for the orientation of newly appointed trustees by September 30, 1978.

   c. Continuing to schedule visits by State Library consultants with local library boards.

Implementation

1. The State Library will use the services of its new staff member who will coordinate continuing education activities (see page 57, Program Objective 11) in the implementation of the continuing education program.

The coordinator will work with all appropriate agencies and institutions, including the CE!S Coordinator of the Southwestern Library Association and the Continuing Education Committee of the Louisiana Library Association, to assure opportunities for the self-development of library personnel and trustees.

2. The State Library will continue to offer statewide service (such as the State Library Processing Center) in order to release the staff of public libraries for services to the public, thereby increasing the man-hours available for improving library services.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

LIBRARY MATERIALS

Needs

Not one book collection of the 62 parish and regional libraries in Louisiana meets Louisiana standards in terms of numbers of volumes.[12] School library collections fall short of state and national standards also. Ten percent of Louisiana's school libraries do not reach the standard of 10 books per student. Adequate information is not currently available for a comparison of academic library collections in Louisiana with the national standards of 1959. To quote from Rogers' *University Library Administration*: ". . . national library standards are useful. No national standard yet exists, however, for judging the quality of a university library."[13] This statement is true of the public, school, and special library as well.

Because no library can be or should be self-sufficient, a better utilization of existing resources must be achieved. "Librarians working together, sharing their services and materials, can meet the full needs of their users."[14] The marshalling of library resources and the fostering of the cooperative and coordinative use of these resources is of primary concern to any group planning for improved services. The public should not be inhibited by the kind or the location of the library. A person should be able to get the book or the information he needs wherever he happens to be.

The public--and librarians--need to know what is available--and where. The *Louisiana Numerical Register*, the beginning of a statewide Union Catalog based on Library of Congress catalog card numbers, for example, is helping to meet this need. The long-range program calls for an expansion of the Register and the continuing development of the Louisiana Union Catalog for better use of present collections. Librarians have a responsibility to publicize their collections--to make known to the public the valuable and useful materials that are available. The public should expect--and receive--prompt service. The telecommunication network is helping to meet this expectation.

It is essential that those responsible for planning be concerned with getting maximum use of the library materials presently in libraries and with eliminating all unnecessary duplication. Therefore, Goal II in Louisiana's long-range program is:

Goal II

To provide the public with enriched library materials and to assure more productive use of these materials by all feasible cooperative means.

Program Objectives

To assure maximum use and to avoid unwarranted duplication of library materials:

a. At the regional level by a continuing internal evaluation of the effectiveness of those library systems already established and a concomitant study of the feasibility of establishing additional pilot library systems by November 1, 1979.

b. At the regional and statewide level through the expansion of the *Louisiana Numerical Register* (a computerized list of the holdings of the libraries by Library of Congress card number) by adding the holdings of the library systems as established, and by adding, by September 30, 1980, the holdings of all libraries in the state that can be represented by Library of Congress card number.

c. At the statewide level through the improvement of library materials at the State Library by adding not fewer than 20,000 books and 200 films annually.

d. At the statewide level through an evaluation of the Processing Center with a view to reducing costs to member libraries and incorporating new technologies into the cataloging-processing function.

e. At the statewide level through active participation by the State Library with major academic and public libraries in a multistate computer-based bibliographic network by September 30, 1977.

Implementation

1. A broadly representative state committee will explore the potential of electronic data processing and telecommunication developments, and make recommendations for coordinated Louisiana library involvement compatible with national standards by September 30, 1977.
2. Appropriate leadership in the State Department of Education and the State Library will develop formalized arrangements to effect closer working relationships among school and public library personnel at the local, system, and state level, so that use of resources by school students can be coordinated more meaningfully, by September 30, 1977.
3. The State Library will support the efforts of the executive council

of each system as it works toward developing plans for the cooperative acquisition of library materials among member libraries by June 30, 1978.

4. The State Library will develop a book selection policy to be coordinated with the cooperative acquisitions programs of library systems and academic libraries in the state by June 30, 1978.
5. The basic telecommunication network for all public and academic libraries--TWX and the State Centrex System--will be continued and expanded where possible.
6. Through the Louisiana Union Catalog, an inventory of all books and pamphlets about Louisiana or by Louisiana writers, and the determination of the location of copies in the libraries of the state, will be continued.
7. An information program to publicize and dramatize the resources of Louisiana libraries will be conducted in Fiscal Year 1978.
8. A representative committee of the Louisiana Library Association will begin work on the development of a state interlibrary loan manual to be completed in Fiscal Year 1977.
9. The State Library will seek the assistance of state Economic Development Districts in a study of the feasibility of establishing additional pilot library systems.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

SERVICE TO THE DISADVANTAGED

Needs

In its Rules and Regulations governing the administration of the Library Services and Construction Act, the U. S. Office of Education defines disadvantaged persons as those "who have educational, socioeconomic, cultural, or other disadvantages that prevent them from receiving the benefits of library services designed for persons without such disadvantages and who for that reason require specially designed library services. The term includes persons whose needs for such special services result from poverty, neglect, delinquency, or cultural or linguistic isolation from the community at large. . . ."[15]

This definition is certainly applicable in Louisiana where low income, education, and employment levels may be cited as indicators of the need for more meaningful service to the disadvantaged. According to the 1970 census[16] 932,671 persons, or 26.3 percent of Louisiana's population, have an annual income less than the poverty level. The poverty threshold used ranged from $1,487 to $6,116 depending on sex, marital status, and place of residence. By comparison to the incidence of poverty in the United States (12.5),[17] the Louisiana figure is high.

According to the census report, poverty status is accorded to 364,475 white persons and 565,522 blacks in the state. In percentage terms 14.7 percent of the white population and 53.2 percent of the black population fall into the poverty category.

The per capita personal income in the state is a further indication of poverty. In 1974 this figure for Louisiana ($4,391) was below that of the southeast region ($4,538) and the nation ($5,448).[18] In five of the seven metropolitan areas in the state, the per capita personal income in 1975 was below $4,500 and in the other two it is only slightly above.[19]

The 1970 census reveals that the number of functionally illiterate in Louisiana totaled 237,449 or 13.1 percent[20] compared to the national average of 5.5 percent.[21] Statistics published by the State Department of Education reveal that the percentage of illiterates in Louisiana has decreased 8.2 percent since 1960. This decrease ties with South Carolina in highest percentage of reduction, but Louisiana still has the highest percentage of illiterates in the United States.[22]

Another measure of educational achievement is the number of median school years completed. In 1970 the median school years completed by Louisianians 25 years old and over was 10.8[23] compared to 12.2 for the United States.[24]

In 1975 the total unemployment for the state was 106,000 or 7.4 percent of the civilian work force of 1,442,000. For the first time in over five years this is less than the national rate of 8.5. The preliminary figures for January-July 1976 reveal that both the state and national rate average 7.5 percent.[25]

For many years Louisiana public libraries have attempted to serve persons at a low economic and educational level, especially through extensive book-mobile service in the rural areas. A number of concerted efforts have been made recently, however, to bring library service to these people in a more useful, effective way.

In Fiscal Year 1972, with a grant from the State Library, the New Orleans and St. Bernard public libraries inaugurated Project Jericho, dedicated to breaking barriers to library service. In a six month planning period preceding the project, these libraries identified three barriers. In priority order they were (1) language barrier affecting the Hispanic population; (2) mobility barrier affecting the elderly citizens; and (3) educational and economic barrier affecting the black population. An evaluation made in August 1973 revealed the service to the Spanish-speaking has been very successful. A Foreign Language Division, established in the New Orleans Public Library, is being continued with local funds. Deposit collections for the elderly to meet priority two was successful in some cases and not in others. More work needs to be done in this area using the knowledge gained through this experience. Deposit collections in predominantly black day-care centers have been used more in some areas than others. The evaluation concluded that new and better methods of service to the black community be tried based on this experience.

Building on the Jericho program, the State Library made a small grant to the New Orleans Public Library in Fiscal Year 1976 for the purpose of further developing service to persons of limited English-speaking ability. Grants were also made to the Jefferson Parish Library and the Bayouland Library System for this same purpose.

In northwest Louisiana the eight-parish Green Gold Library System is cooperating with the Right to Read effort by bringing two plays a year to children throughout the system. With the cooperation of the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra, the system is bringing professional-quality musical per-

formances to the elderly residents of the area. Chamber music concerts are presented in each parish and an opera is presented annually in Shreveport. Transportation for the elderly is provided with the cooperation of area churches and aging agencies. Four parishes in the system have one-third or more families in poverty. They are Bienville, DeSoto, Red River, and Sabine Parishes.

The Bossier Parish Library, a member of the Green Gold Library System, makes weekly visits to the parish jail, checking out books from a book truck to men in the cell block. The library also brings "portable" programs to the senior citizens at nutrition sites set up by the Council of Local Governments. In DeSoto Parish, another parish with one-third of its families in poverty, the library makes weekly visits to a nursing home and places deposit collections in a neighborhood center and Head Start center. The Sabine Parish Library also provides service to the parish jail, and the Red River Parish Library bookmobile gives service to senior citizens' club meetings.

In northeast Louisiana seven of the 13 member parishes in the Trail Blazer System have one-third or more families in poverty. In the spring of 1974, a workshop was held at the Trail Blazer Library System Center for the member libraries. Its purpose was to present the experience of one library in reaching the unserved. While the examples given were from an urban situation, several parishes found ideas useful to their location. For example, Richland Parish contacted the Migrant School in that parish and planned programs for these children as well as introducing them to the traditional library programs. Ouachita Parish has established deposit collections in two locally funded boys' clubs--one in an urban black

neighborhood and the other in a rural predominantly white disadvantaged neighborhood located a great distance from a library. The Ouachita Parish Public Library provides materials, staff, and special programs at both clubs.

In south central Louisiana the Bayouland Library System, begun in 1974, is comprised of ten parishes serving 626,000 people. The system has compiled and distributed to member libraries and homes for the aged a bibliography of large print books available from the member libraries. In the spring of 1975 a regional workshop was conducted with assistance from a State Library consultant for the purpose of coordinating services to the disadvantaged with other groups and agencies with common concerns.

Bayouland parish libraries are serving the disadvantaged by providing bookmobile service to nursing homes, Head Start centers, schools for the retarded detention homes, an Indian reservation, day-care centers, and migrant workers. A number of libraries also present regular film showings in nursing homes and welcome library visits by children from day-care, Head Start, and migrant centers.

The recent influx of Vietnamese refugees into portions of south central and southeast Louisiana has created a crisis situation in local libraries for Vietnamese language materials. Unable to communicate in English or French, many Vietnamese are locked out of our modern American society completely without an understanding of our basic laws or our culture. The State Library published in 1975 a bibliography of Vietnamese language materials useful to our new citizens. The bibliography has received national interest and has been distributed to every state library agency.

One of the most common characteriestics of the disadvantaged is a poor educational background. By participating in an effort to raise the

economic and educational level of its citizens, Louisiana libraries can contribute to an improvement in their quality of living and general well-being; therefore, Goal III is:

Goal III

To develop programs that will provide meaningful library service to the urban and rural disadvantaged and to racial minorities with special needs.

Program Objectives	Implementation
1. To locate the urban and rural disadvantaged and racial minorities concentrating on the metropolitan areas and parishes in which one-third or more families are poverty level and to assess their needs for information and services.	1. State Library consultant will work with parish librarians to identify and locate the disadvantaged and racial minorities by: a. Making parish librarians aware of published economic data in the 1970 census and any other pertinent data available. b. Coordinating work between the parish library and other agencies working with the disadvantaged such as Operation Upgrade, Right to Read, and Department of Employment Security.
2. To develop library information and services to the disadvantaged through grants to library systems and other libraries not yet affiliated with systems.	2. The State Library will: a. Continue to require in the conditions for qualifying for a library system grant the inclusion of a plan for service to the disadvantaged through 1977. b. Make small grants, based on plans developed locally, to parish libraries not yet affiliated with a library system.
3. To identify special types of library materials useful to persons with little education and to call them to the attention of public librarians.	3. The State Library will: a. Provide a consultant, who--with the cooperation of the acquisitions librarian--will continue to search lists and catalogs of library materials from publishers, producers, and other

libraries; visit convention exhibits where such materials are displayed; develop an information file and call to the attention of public librarians.

b. The State Library Films and Recordings Department will continue to consult with community, religious, educational, and recreational groups to identify and to program materials for use with the disadvantaged and racial minorities of all ages.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

SERVICE TO THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Needs

Louisiana's blind citizens have had library service available in the state since 1932. The New Orleans Public Library was among the first to be designated by the Library of Congress to serve as a Regional Library in the National Books for the Blind Program. This function was assumed by the State Library in 1958, and, even before the advent of the Title IV-B program, funds from the Library Services Act were dedicated to improving the level of service to those with severe visual impairment.

Hundreds of spoken word recordings from commercial catalogs were acquired to augment the materials supplied for the federal program. Recognizing the important potential of magnetic tape recording as the most promising means for attaining a level of library service for the blind comparable to that available for the sighted, a local volunteer program was initiated by the State Library as early as 1960. Books of particular interest to Louisiana blind people were produced on tape; these were previously available in no other usable form.

In 1967, the first year of the Title IV-B program, seven area representatives demonstrated in a three-month pilot project the vital necessity for a continuing case-finding effort in any successful library program for the handicapped.

When Talking Books produced by the Library of Congress for the blind could finally be offered to people with other disabling handicaps, nationwide studies indicated that the eligible potential increased from three out of each thousand population to 37.

Louisiana's regional library has succeeded after many years in reaching 15 percent of the state's estimated 10,000 legally blind. In only nine years of the expanded program, the number of handicapped readers served has almost quadrupled, but of the potential of 140,000, this accounts for little more than four percent.

Congress has provided the means for greatly extending the book resources on phonograph discs and magnetic tape. The State Library has matched the standards adopted by the American Library Association for staff and facilities, and the postal service carries the books to and from the reader without postage.

The single greatest need now remains to develop effective means for getting the message to that part of the population which by definition is disadvantaged in many of the usual channels of communication. One hundred twenty thousand still need to know what has been created for them in a form that they can use--how they can read again without seeing--know what is being written in today's books and magazines without turning a page.

The median age for this group is in the range of the senior citizen, and mortality and turnover are high. An occasional publicity campaign will not meet the need, but continuing coordinated efforts must be part of the on-going program.

Recognizing the difficulty in reaching the blind and physically handicapped, the Advisory Council has set as Goal IV:

Goal IV

To reach more effectively and completely with library and information services the blind and physically handicapped of Louisiana.

Program Objectives

1. To utilize all practical means for increasing the percentage of eligible blind and physically handicapped persons served to at least 10 percent by 1981, and to make known the library services and materials available.
2. To obtain an optimum coordination of effort and resources between the State Library's Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and parish public libraries through seven regional workshops by September 30, 1978.
3. To add to the available resources by promoting local production of useful library materials by volunteers through the addition of at least 25 titles each year that have not been available before.

Implementation

1. The program will continue to provide a professional staff and the clerical support sufficient to meet the accepted standards for service to the blind and physically handicapped at the state level through:
   a. The loan without charge of spoken recordings or discs and magnetic tape and materials in braille and large print by direct mail, or through those channels most convenient to each individual reader.

b. The provision of a dependable reference service capable of meeting the information needs of the physically handicapped.

c. The constant surveillance necessary to maintain the fragile recorded materials in complete readable condition.

d. The location and utilization of all available national resources to the fullest extent.

2. In the effort to identify as many as possible of the 125,000 handicapped people who need special reading materials, regional workshops will be conducted in the four remaining system areas (three have been completed) by 1978.

Special efforts will be made to encourage and assist all public librarians in developing appropriate supplementary services that can be most effectively provided at the community level. Furthermore the regional workshops will provide another means of enlisting the cooperation of all public and private organizations and agencies serving the physically handicapped, such as nursing homes, medical societies, and rehabilitation agencies for the purpose of making the services known; identifying and certifying eligible persons; and assisting registered readers in communicating their reading requirements. Regional meetings of physically handicapped people, including both those who use the service and those who do not, will be held in conjunction with the workshops, or separately, to determine how effectively the program meets their library and information needs.

3. An assigned staff member will continue to instruct and supervise volunteers in a statewide recording project to expand the limited book resources and, particularly, to meet the specialized reading needs of the blind and physically handicapped.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

SERVICE TO HEALTH AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Needs

Authorized by law to provide service to health, welfare, and correctional institutions, the State Library has long recognized the urgent need for such service. Because of the lack of funds and staff, little was done before 1967, when the Library Services and Construction Act was expanded to provide funds for library service to institutions substantially supported by the state. Although the funding for this program has remained at a minimum, considerable progress has been made in extending library service to the residents of these institutions.

The State Library assigned consultant attention, first on a part-time and now on a full-time basis, to work with developing institutional service. Because of the nominal allotment, the State Library chose to work with one institution at a time to establish pilot libraries, following again the plan found so successful in developing public library service. With the cooperation of the individual institution and the state agency responsible for administering the institution, the State Library organizes the library and assists in its administration for two years. The institution contributes approximately 50 percent of the cost of operating the pilot library and assumes full responsibility for operation and financing after the pilot period. The State Library continues to offer advice and consultation; to order, catalog, and process books without charge; and to supplement the institutional collection on special request.

Eligible for assistance under the Act are 38 state institutions administered by three departments of state government. Of these, nine are general hospitals where the patient's stay is short-term and the need for library service is minimal. In the 29 institutions having long-term residents, the total population is 14,352.

To date, libraries have been established in eleven institutions--three adult correctional institutions, three large mental hospitals, and five schools for the retarded. In these institutions the population totals 8,876. This leaves 18 institutions with a total population of 7,859 in need of library service. Eleven of these institutions with a population of 1,911 have academic programs with accompanying school libraries. These libraries must be improved and expanded to include recreational materials.

Although Library Services and Construction Act funds may be used only in the development of state institutions, there are also local institutions in every parish whose residents are in need of library service. Ways to reach these unfortunate individuals must be explored.

To help residents "serving time" in state as well as local health and correctional institutions make "time serve" them, Goal V is:

Goal V

To continue to support, broaden, and strengthen the total rehabilitation program of the health and correctional institutions of the state by providing and extending library service.

Program Objectives	Implementation
1. To continue the two-year pilot library programs with the objectives of establishing libraries in (a) two schools for the retarded (Pinecrest State School, Fiscal Year 1977, Northwest State School, Fiscal Year 1978), (b) one geriatric hospital (Villa Feliciana, Fiscal Year 1978), and (c) expanding and broadening the existing school library program in four juvenile correctional institutions to include materials for recreational and leisure time use. (Louisiana Training Institute, Baton Rouge, Fiscal Year 1977, L.T.I., Monroe, Fiscal Year 1978, L.T.I., Pineville, Fiscal Year 1979, L.T.I., Bridge City, Fiscal Year 1980). Priority will be given to those institutions where the residents are believed to be able to benefit most from library service and which are in a position to assume the financing and operation of the library on a continuing basis.	1. State Library institutional consultant in cooperation with institution and appropriate state department will make the study and investigation necessary to select the institutions for pilot programs and work with the staff in implementing the establishment.
2. To assist in bridging the gap between the institutionalized person and his community through special programming in institutions and liaison with public libraries.	2. Public librarians in the vicinity of the institutions will be invited to participate in prerelease programs explaining the services of the library and encouraging the residents to use the services of the public library upon release.
3. To provide continuing advice and assistance to established institutional libraries.	3. State Library institutional consultant will continue to: a. Make semiannual visits to institutional libraries. b. Plan and conduct semiannual meetings of the institutional librarians with the meeting place to be rotated among institutions. These meetings will provide for exchange of ideas and experiences and the presentation of instructional programs. c. Issue regular newsletter directed to institutional libraries containing program ideas, new materials, display ideas, vignettes, and so forth.

4. To promote more effective use of State Library resources and services by the residents and staffs of state institutions.

4. State Library institutional consultant will:

   a. Continue to make or renew contact with state institutions without library service to explain the services of the State Library, using one or more of the following methods:

      Produce a slide or filmstrip presentation;

      Provide a packet containing film, recording, and periodical catalogs;

      Continue to prepare booklists in cooperation with Reference Department on subjects of interest and concern to institutional staffs.

   b. Continue to bring regularly to the attention of institutional librarians services available from the State Library, especially new materials of interest.

   c. Continue to provide an orientation session at the State Library for newly appointed institutional librarians.

5. To develop service to the jails, halfway houses, hospitals, and other local institutions

5. State Library institutional consultant will continue to explore with local public librarians the best way to serve the residents of these institutions, whether it be by bookmobile stops, deposit collections, or other methods, and will work with the librarians in developing the service.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

FINANCING

Needs

The State Library annually faces fiscal crises. Past and current token state appropriations, coupled with the yearly threat of reduced federal funds, not only has inhibited the implementation of new, bold plans but has restricted ongoing programs.

During the last 19 years (1958-76) the highest state appropriation in support of services provided by the State Library was $538,255 (for Fiscal Year 1975); the lowest, $267,000 (for Fiscal Years 1959 and 1963). In the same period, the federal government increased its support by more than 1000 percent--from $110,170 in Fiscal Year 1958 to $1,244,089 in Fiscal Year 1973. The present state appropriation is not sufficient to cover salaries of State Library staff--not, at the current salary level, even the number of staff employed ten years ago before federal funds were substantially increased!

The intent of the Federal Library Services and Construction Act is to provide funds to supplement, not to replace, state funds for library support. Until the state assumes its fair share of funding, the State Library will never be able to provide the library services Louisianians want and need--and deserve.

Note should be made of the willingness of Louisianians to support their parish libraries, although in many parishes not at the level needed for

quality service. Fifty-seven libraries are supported by a property tax voted for library support, two by sales tax, two by annual appropriations from the general fund, and one by both property tax and annual appropriation. The average per capita expenditure of Louisiana public libraries for 1975 was $3.69. Only two of the eight libraries serving a population of more than 100,000 reached or exceeded this average. The other 55 libraries ranged in per capita support from a low of $1.39 to a high of $8.57.

To quote from the Humphry study: "Recognized leaders in the library profession as well as the American Library Association itself stress the need for adequate operating budgets for libraries and library systems, not an established figure of per capita expenditure. A high per capita expenditure does not necessarily provide an adequate library budget. It is essential, therefore, to make a case for expending sufficient sums to meet standards promulgated by the profession. The funds for public support of libraries should come from the combined resources of federal, state, and local governments. A per capita figure is used in such cases only to institute such financial support. It is essential that any formula be continuously reviewed, evaluated, and adjusted if warranted, in light of accomplishments and circumstances."[26]

The cooperative and coordinated approach of libraries sharing their services and resources--the system concept--will help to equalize service to all and will assure the taxpayer of maximum use of the tax dollar.

The Humphry survey recommends that state funds be used in the development of pilot library systems, suggesting that the state make initial appropriations in support of the system concept.[27] It is the consensus of

the Advisory Council, however, that federal funds should support the two-year pilot system, and that federal, state, and local funds provide for the continuation of system service after the pilot program. Regrettably, because state funds have not been available, continuing system support has been heavily dependent on federal appropriations.

The fiscal plight of the academic library is critical. The Louisiana Board of Regents in its "State Appropriation Formula, 1976", recommended that five to six percent of the total educational and general budget be assigned to the library in each state college or university.[28] Only 11 of the 17 state-supported academic libraries met this minimum.

School libraries have financial problems also. Increased funds for materials of instruction are needed. The yearly average of $1.00 for each pupil is not sufficient for the purchase of adequate, quality materials. The first state allocation in 1936 was $1.05 for each pupil; in 1976-77 the allocation is $1.15 per pupil. Ten to 15 percent of Louisiana's schools do not even reach the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools minimum standard of $2.50 for each student which is admittedly low.

Aware that the state has not assumed its fair share of library support, library leaders, lay and professional, are concerned with raising the level of state funding and have identified as Goal VI:

Goal VI

To improve library service to Louisianians through more adequate state funding for all types of libraries.

Program Objectives

1. To obtain state funding for grants to local public libraries for the purpose of buying books. Proposed legislation will request state support to supplement local library book budgets.
2. To raise the current level of state funding (Fiscal Year 1977) for the State Library by 10 percent to $591,800 in Fiscal Year 1978 and to increase the funding by 10 percent each year thereafter for a three-year period.
3. To secure for each state college and university library a minimum of five percent of the total educational and general budget (for definition of "educational and general" expenditures, see Louisiana Board of Regents' *State Appropriation Formula,* 1976[29]) no later than Fiscal 1978.
4. To obtain for total school library support an annual minimum of $2.50 for each pupil (the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools standard [30]) no later than Fiscal 1978.

Implementation

The continuation of the Louisiana Legislative Network of the Louisiana Library Association for the purpose of informing legislators about (a) the functions and importance of libraries and (b) specific state and federal legislative programs which affect libraries.

A renewed public relations effort initiated by the State Library and aimed at the general public to inform them of the multi-faceted library services available to them through various types of libraries with the expectancy that an informed public will provide grass roots support for securing financial support for these libraries.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATIONS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Needs

The library and its image has been a major concern of librarians and library friends. Allie Beth Martin, in *A Strategy for Public Library Change*[31] documents the lack of communication and understanding between the library and the community it serves. The failure of libraries to make the public aware of library services and resources is a serious deterrent to full use of existing library facilities by the Louisiana public and to the securing of broad public support so necessary for the continuance and improvement of library services.

The Louisiana State Library proposes to take the initiative in helping public libraries across the state strengthen their public relations efforts to inform their public of the depth and multiplicity of services available.

A similar lack of communication exists between the various types of libraries in the state and the State Library. A highly developed, consistent approach is needed to provide continuously information to librarians and trustees about the activities and plans of the State Library. The dessimination of information about programs, particularly those funded by the Library Services and Construction Act, is an important adjunct to an effective public relations effort.

Therefore Goal VII is to:

Goal VII

Create in Louisiana's citizens an active awareness of the materials and services that can be provided through libraries and promote a better understanding of the programs, activities, and directions of the State Library.

Program Objectives

1. To document the activities and accomplishments of the Louisiana State Library.
2. To make the public generally aware of the services of the State Library.
3. To emphasize particular services of the State Library for potential user groups.
4. To assist public libraries throughout the state in developing local public relations effort.
5. To inform the public of the needs and problems of libraries.

Implementation

1. a. A biennial report will be produced by February 1977, and annual reports will be produced in February of the years 1978-1981. These reports will serve as brief historical summaries of State Library activities, and will be distributed to academic, public, special libraries, and school media centers.

   b. Activities and events on local, state, and national levels of interest to librarians and trustees will be listed and distributed to all public libraries and each public library trustee. The newsletter, *Communiqué*, will keep readers informed and alert them to new developments. The newsletter will be distributed monthly on a continuing basis through 1977-1981.

c. The public relations officer will travel and cover important meetings and projects around the state and prepare material for inclusion in the *Louisiana Library Association Bulletin.*

2. a. A brochure describing the services of the State Library and written for distribution to the general public will be produced by February of 1978. The brochure will briefly describe each service and attempt to clarify the relationship between the State Library and public libraries.

b. News releases which can be localized will be distributed to local libraries throughout the state for their use in promoting local services, beginning in October 1976.

c. A series of two- to six-minute fillers for use on educational television stations will be produced in cooperation with Louisiana Educational Television by February 1977.

d. The Public Relations staff will continue to assist systems and individual libraries in the creation, design, and layout of special pieces of publicity, and provide consultations on request.

3. a. Certain services of the State Library will be selected for greater emphasis. For example, radio and television spots promoting the State Library's services to the blind and physically handicapped will be aired starting in November 1976. The spots will be rewritten and changed periodically so that the same information can be presented in a fresh format on a continuing basis.

b. The Public Relations staff will develop a cooperative program with other agencies in the state such as Blind Services Program of the Family Services Division, Lighthouse for the Blind in New

Orleans, Bureau of Special Education, Councils on Aging, Louisiana State School for the Blind, Parish and City School Boards, Parish Health Departments, and the State Library's Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to make our own services more visible and accessible in April 1977.

c. A feature news story on the Processing Center will be prepared for distribution throughout the state emphasizing the economics of centralized processing in May 1977.

d. A similar news story based on the interlibrary loan activities of the Readers' Services Department with photographs will be distributed to daily newspapers across the state in July 1977.

e. The Public Relations Officer will continue to assist each department of the State Library in the design and layout of reports and brochures.

f. The Public Relations Officer and the Library Development Department will cooperate in the production of a packet of information designed to assist parish libraries in the passage of a tax election.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Needs

Sixty-six buildings have been constructed, enlarged, or improved since the inception in Fiscal Year 1965 of the public library construction program under Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act, and 35 of these were financed with local funds only. The quarters for many of Louisiana's public libraries are still not adequate to meet the needs and demands of good library service.

In the next five years the New Orleans Public Library will need nine branch libraries; the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, two branches. A recent study of the Calcasieu Parish Public Library System recommended that the headquarters and main branch be enlarged and that eight branch buildings be constructed by 1985.[32]

In the rural areas of the state, the DeSoto Parish Library and the Allen Parish Library have a great need for new quarters for the main library. The following parishes, in addition to Allen, still have the main library in store-front facilities: Ascension, Assumption, Claiborne, East Carroll, and Jefferson Davis. In Livingston Parish, the library headquarters branch is housed in a condemned courthouse. The central branch for both the Webster and Iberville Parish libraries are in old homes which are inadequate for use as libraries.

Because buildings should be provided with "space for the full range of library service needed by the area served" and adequate to fulfill the objectives of the program of service,"[33] Goal VIII is:

Goal VIII

To provide the physical facilities necessary to develop improved library and information services for all segments of the population.

Program Objectives

With funds available under Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act and local matching funds, to administer a program which will provide each year the construction of at least one public library or the addition to an existing public library. The effect on this objective of the lack of Title II funding is obvious. It should be noted, however, that a number of parishes are moving ahead to provide funding of public library construction with local and federal revenue sharing dollars. (The Advisory Council has not yet made an attempt to identify the physical facilities needed by academic and school libraries.)

Implementation

1. The program will be implemented in compliance with the Library Services and Construction Act (Public Law 91-600) and its regulations (Part 130 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations), and in accordance with the regulations and policies of the State Library, as set forth in the "Louisiana State Library Construction Project Application (Revised)".
2. As there are no state funds available for the construction of public libraries, local funds must be used for matching. The parish, municipal, or the parish-municipal governing authority must provide 40 percent or more of the cost from local funds, the specific formula to be determined annually when the amount of the federal appropriation is known.

3. "Public library construction" is defined as the construction of new public library buildings and as the expansion, remodeling, and alteration of existing buildings to be used as public libraries; and the initial equipment of any such buildings (but not books), including architect's fees and the cost of the acquisition of land.
4. These facilities must serve areas that are without or have inadequate library facilities necessary to develop library services. All such buildings must be used for library service and must be designed for a service growth according to approved library standards.
5. The request for funds must be made by the Library Board of Control and the parish, municipal, or parish-municipal governing authority to the State Library, which approves all applications and is responsible for all projects. A statement of pertinent data that substantiates the need for the requested library facility must accompany the application.
6. The facility should meet guidlines as set forth in *Goals, Guidelines, and Gauges for Public Library Service in Louisiana*, 1975.[34]
7. The public library must be a part of a parish library system except where there is evidence of a cooperative arrangement between the municipal library and the parish library system operating under the laws governing Parish and Municipal Libraries (Louisiana Revised Statutes 25:211) or the Local Services Act (Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:1324).
8. The public library must be a member of the library system if a system is in operation in the geographically designated system area in which the public library applying for a construction grant is located; or the public library must be a participant in any state or federally funded cooperative project in progress in the geographically designated system

area in which the public library applying for a construction grant is located.

9. The State Library will provide a building consultant to confer with the librarian, members of the Board of Control, and architect in the planning for and construction of public library buildings.

10. The State Library will apply the following priorities in making grants:

    a. Building for library serving as center for library system or officially designated system area.

    b. Building for library in parish in which the average family income is less than $5,500.

    c. Building for library in parish which has not received prior grant under Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act.

11. All requirements being met and conditions on which priorities are established being equal, the State Library will make grants in the order that applications are approved and local funds are available.

NEEDS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION

STUDY AND EVALUATION

Needs

The Humphry survey recommended that "a research office should be established (in the State Library) to conduct studies, both academic and practical, in library problems"; and that "studies should be made in such areas as library management, effective use of personnel, computer operation, systems or operations analysis, metropolitan and rural problems and of the involvement of business, commerce and industry with library information services."[35]

Although no research office has been established, the State Library, recognizing its responsibility to direct and stimulate continuing study and evaluation, has taken some steps in this direction.

As cited in Reports and Studies (Attachment VI), a number of significant studies that have contributed to the development of plans for improved library service in Louisiana have been made--the Humphry survey, the Hefley survey, the Hendricks Processing Center evaluation, the Dalton library system evaluation, the Southwest Louisiana motivation study, the Vedder evaluation of the Institutional Library Pilot Program, and the self-studies at the state and regional level.

The Advisory Council recognizes that it must involve nonusers as well as users of libraries in identifying and meeting needs. The council recognizes also that the base for statewide planning must be even broader than the composition of the council.

Louisiana library planners are keenly aware that the prompt and wide dissemination of the findings of all studies and evaluations is of the utmost importance to the lay, official, and professional sectors.

Because of the vital need for facts, not impressions, in charting the future course of Louisiana library development, Goal IX is:

Goal IX

To assure more effective library service through study and evaluation on a regular, frequent schedule; to disseminate the findings of such studies promptly, widely, and appropriately; and to devise ways to make useful the findings of such studies.

Program Objectives	Implementation
1. To evaluate each pilot library system prior to its completion, to continue to evaluate all systems to determine their effectiveness, and to make recommendations for their improvement.	1. A continuing evaluation will be conducted internally by the staff of the system, in consultation with the State Library.
2. To develop standards for library systems to assist in measuring achievement, in Fiscal Year 1977.	2. Standards for library systems will be developed by representatives from each system in operation and a representative from the State Library.
3. To evaluate the State Library book collection on a continuing basis by identifying strengths and deficiencies in relation to the pattern of subjects in public demand and the level of current acquisitions in these areas.	3. A librarian and typist-clerk have been employed on a full-time basis for collection evaluation, development, and physical reorganization.
4. To study audiovisual resources in the state with recommendations on coordination, acquisition, use, and distribution, in Fiscal Year 1978.	4. This long-needed study will be planned by representatives from all appropriate state and parish agencies with responsibilities for audiovisual services and conducted by a person selected by them. State and parish agencies will include Department of Education, State Board of Health, State Library, and parish media centers.

5. To evaluate all planning and development projects upon completion of the program.	5. Participating librarians will be responsible for the evaluation developed by the State Library.
6. To evaluate each institutional pilot library prior to its completion.	6. The institutional librarian, in cooperation with the State Library institutional consultant, will determine the best method for evaluation of the service.
7. To support a revision of school library standards consistent with those of the American Library Association, by Fiscal Year 1979.	7. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Education will be encouraged to work with Louisiana school librarians in the revision and adoption of standards for Louisiana school libraries.
8. To provide State Library administrative and supervisory personnel with instruction and guidance in the application of modern management techniques in Fiscal Year 1977.	8. A management workshop, one of five to be held across the state in Fiscal Year 1977, will provide State Library staff an opportunity for continuing education in management techniques.
9. To involve nonusers as well as users of libraries in identifying and meeting needs and to broaden the base for statewide planning in Fiscal Year 1976.	9. The Advisory Council will involve persons who, because of their awareness of needs and because of their expertise and knowledge in areas of concern such as service to the physically handicapped, the disadvantaged, and the institutionalized, can assist the Council in planning. Furthermore, the Council and the State Library will encourage this kind of input at all levels of planning.
10. To assure that each study and evaluation will have adequate feedback and the necessary follow-through.	10. Each study and evaluation will include specific suggestions for securing reaction to its contents and for implementing its findings.
11. To encourage Louisiana librarians to become more research-oriented and to motivate them to reach solutions to local problems by looking at what librarians in other states or parishes have done and by researching library literature.	11. The State Library will request in its State Budget request for Fiscal Year 1978 a new position for a staff member who will be responsible for the coordination of efforts to improve continuing education opportunities for all librarians--providing them with an awareness of modern methods to solve local problems.

NOTES

[1]John A. Humphry and James Humphry III, *Library Service in Louisiana: Keeping Pace With Progress in the State* (New York, 1968).

[2]Shirley K. Stephenson, "The Concept of Systems of Libraries with Special Application to Louisiana," *Louisiana Library Association Bulletin*, XXXIV (Winter, 1970), 151.

[3]Humphry and Humphry, *Library Service in Louisiana*, 15.

[4]Ibid., 22

[5]Ibid., 67.

[6]Phyllis I. Dalton, *Trail Blazer Pilot Library System of Northeast Louisiana: An Evaluation* (Sacramento, 1972), 58.

[7]Louisiana Coordinating Council for Higher Education, *Master Plan Toward Balanced Growth in Louisiana Posthigh School Education: Quantity and Quality* (Baton Rouge, 1972).

[8]U. S. Office of Education. Library Statistics of Colleges and Universities. (Washington, D. C., 1976).

[9]Louisiana State Department of Education, *Annual Report for the Session 1974-75* (Baton Rouge, 1976).

[10]Ibid.

[11]U. S. National Advisory Commission on Libraries, *Library Services for the Nation's Needs, Toward Fulfillment of a National Policy* (Washington, D. C., 1968), 30.

[12]Louisiana Library Association. Public Library Section. *Goals, Guidelines and Gauges for Public Library Service in Louisiana* (Baton Rouge, 1975).

[13]Rutherford D. Rogers, *University Library Administration* (New York, 1971), 289.

[14]Public Library Association. Standards Committee, *Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems* (Chicago, 1967), 10.

[15]*Federal Register*, XXXIX (December 2, 1974), 41712.

[16]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population: 1970. General Social and Economic Characteristics: Louisiana* (Washington, D. C., 1972), 189.

[17]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1973* (Washington, D. C., 1973), 335.

[18]U. S. Department of Commerce, *Survey of Current Business*, L V (August 1975), 42.

[19]*Survey of Buying Power Data Service*, 1976. (New York, 1976), 5:22-23.

[20]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population: 1970*, 163.

[21]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract...* 1975, 121.

[22]Louisiana State Department of Education, *Statistics of Louisiana Adult Education Programs*, Bulletin 1260 (Baton Rouge, 1975).

[23]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Census of Population: 1970*, 155.

[24]U. S. Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract...* 1971, 108.

[25]Source: Louisiana Department of Employment Security.

[26]Humphry and Humphry, *Library Service in Louisiana*, 90

[27]Ibid., 89

[28]Louisiana Board of Regents. *State Appropriation Formula.* 1976, 10.

[29]Ibid., 18-22.

[30]Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, *Standards for Secondary Schools* (Atlanta, 1970-71), 12.

[31]Allie Beth Martin, *A Strategy for Public Library Change* (Chicago, 1972), 28.

[32]Bertha D. Hellum, *Calcasieu Parish Public Library System; Report on the Organization and Services, 1974, and Recommended Guidelines, 1975-1985* (Lake Charles, 1975), 24.

[33]Public Library Association. Standards Committee, *Minimum Standards*, 60.

[34]Louisiana Library Association. Public Library Section, *Goals, Guidelines and Gauges for Public Library Service in Louisiana* (Baton Rouge, 1975).

[35]Humphry and Humphry, *Library Service in Louisiana*, 61.

ATTACHMENT I

LOUISIANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES

Chairman: Mrs. Bob Jones

Executive Secretary: Mr. Thomas F. Jaques

1. Mr. James Abadie
P. O. Box 425
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

2. Mr. W. R. Alexander
813 Goss Street
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3. Dr. Julia Avant, Director
Ouachita Parish Public Library
1800 Stubbs Avenue
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4. Dr. Jane Ellen Carstens
Associate Professor of Library Science
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5. Judge Ian W. Claiborne, *ex officio*
Chairman, Library Development Committee
of Louisiana
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6. Dr. Gerry Covington
Supervisor of Instructional Resources
New Orleans Public Schools
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7. Mr. Howard L. Coy, Jr., Librarian
Leesville State School
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Leesville, LA 71446

8. Mrs. Jacklyn Ducote, Librarian
Public Affairs Research Council
P. O. Box 3118
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

9. Mrs. Benjamin Farrar
901 North Main Street
Delhi, LA 71232

10. Dr. F. Landon Greaves, Director
Linus A. Sims Memorial Library
Southeastern Louisiana University
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11. Mr. Kenneth Istre
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Lake Charles, LA 70601

12. Mrs. Bob Jones, Chairman
Louisiana State Library Board of
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Clinton, LA 70722

13. Mrs. Yvonne Koch, Media Specialist
Iberia Education Center
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New Iberia, LA 70560

14. Dr. Robert T. McLean, Professor
Mathematics Department
Loyola University
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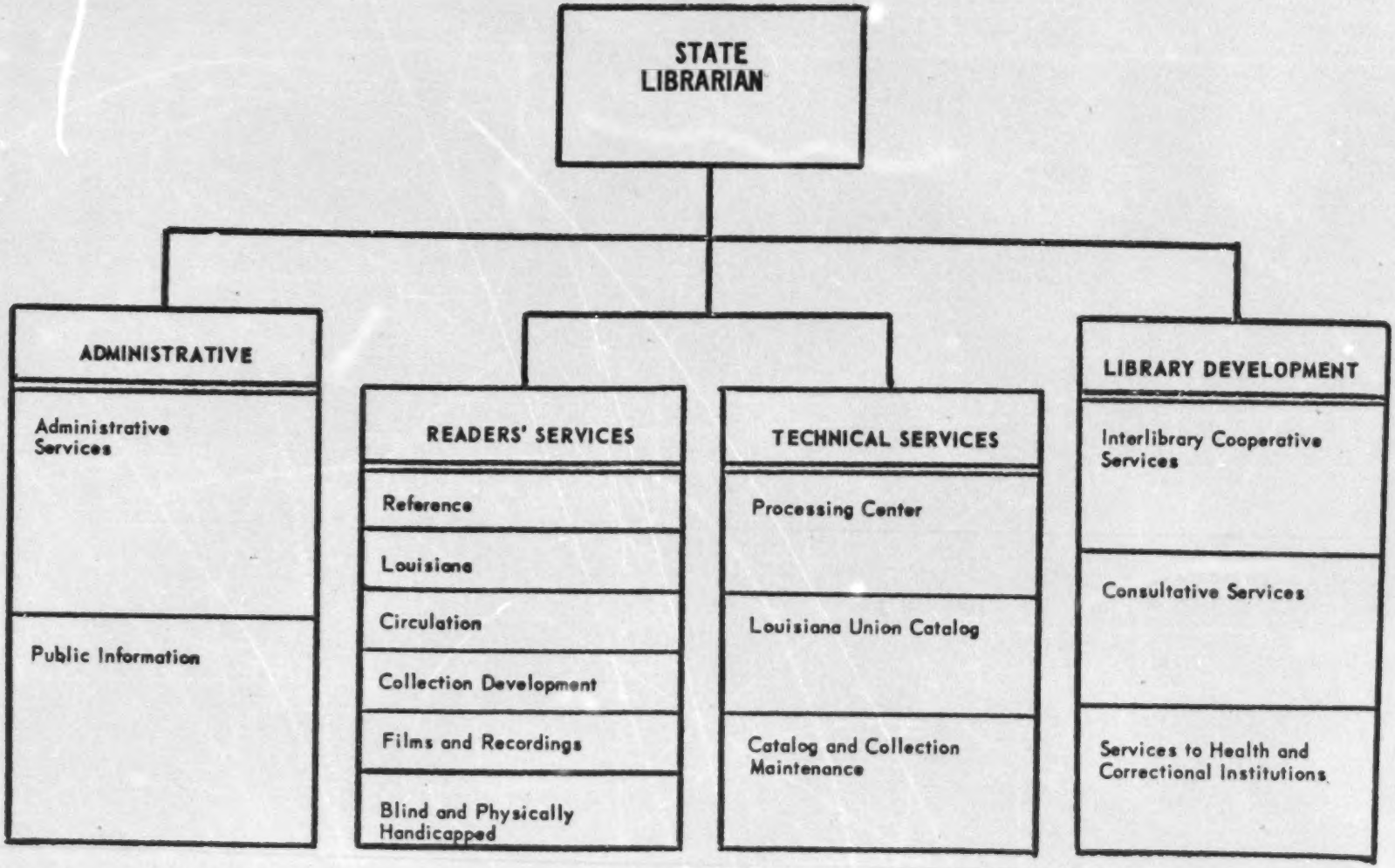
New Orleans, LA 70118

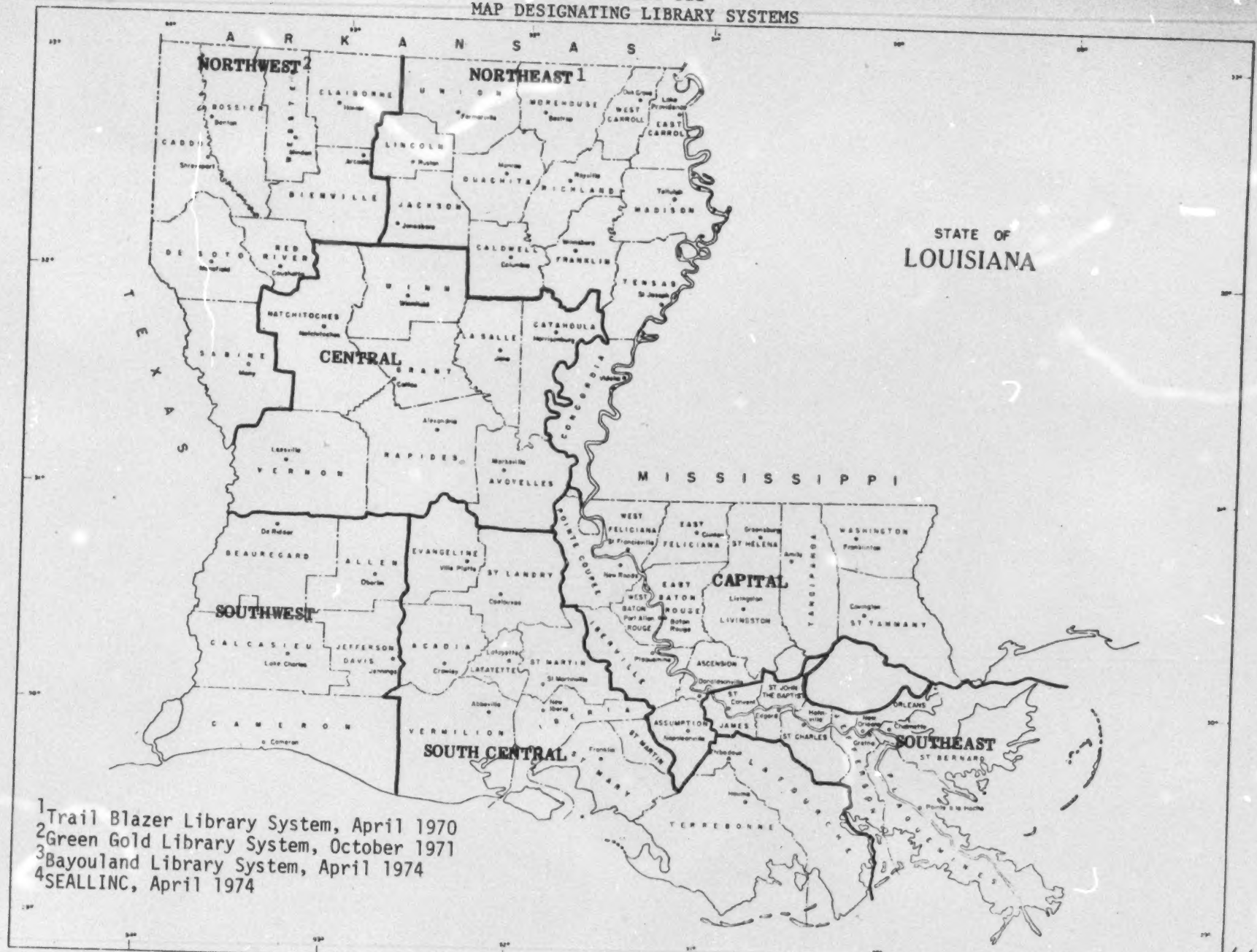
15. Dr. Huel Perkins, Dean
College of Arts and Humanities
Southern University
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

ATTACHMENT II

LOUISIANA STATE LIBRARY
FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION CHART



ATTACHMENT III
MAP DESIGNATING LIBRARY SYSTEMS



[1]Trail Blazer Library System, April 1970
[2]Green Gold Library System, October 1971
[3]Bayouland Library System, April 1974
[4]SEALLINC, April 1974

ATTACHMENT IV

RECOMMENDED SIZE OF BOOK COLLECTIONS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES[1]

Population	Books per Capita
Under 25,000	4 books (40,000 minimum)
25,000-49,999	3 books
50,000-99,999	2.5 books
100,000 and over	2 books

1. Louisiana Library Association: Public Library Section, *Goals, Guidelines and Gauges for Public Library Service in Louisiana* (Baton Rouge, 1975), p. 9.

ATTACHMENT V

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS

1. Legality. Is the project authorized by Federal and State laws and local governing authorities - e.g., county, municipal and/or appropriate Boards?

2. Goal-related. Are the project objectives in accord with goals and objectives set forth in the long-range program? To what extent is statewide consensus evident on importance of the project? (State Association, etc.)

3. Feasibility. Does the project have a reasonable chance to succeed? Is there evidence of local commitment to continue the project? Are local and state funds in the offing?

4. Population Served. How many people will have an opportunity to benefit from the project? How many of these are from low-income families? From ethnic groups?

5. Replicability. How significant is the project in terms of applicability in other locations in the state? The nation?

6. Local Management Capacity. What is the competency of personnel and adequacy of facilities to administer the project?

7. Interagency Cooperation. Does the project reflect a concerted approach? Community oriented? Not duplication of effort, etc.?

8. Evaluation. What provisions are made for evaluation? Procedure? Reporting?

9. Capacity to Monitor. Does the State Agency have the ability and time to monitor the project?

10. Political Implications. Is the project free of political bias? Lend to geographic balance of outside benefits to localities?

11. LSCA Priorities. Does the project relate to the priorities established by the Library Services and Construction Act?

Suggested by
Miss S. Janice Kee
Library Services Program Officer
U. S. Office of Education Region VI
Dallas, Texas

February 18, 1972

ATTACHMENT VI

REPORTS AND STUDIES

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Unpublished Evaluations on File at State Library:

Regional Library Planning Groups

JERICHO: Breaking Barriers to Library Service.

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